

TWIN SPICA

Kou Yaginuma

6



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Kou Yaginuma



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I HAVE
TO BE
STRONG

B
E
C
A
U
S
E

TO STAND
BEING
ALONE

I HAVE TO
HAVE THE
STRENGTH
OF HEART

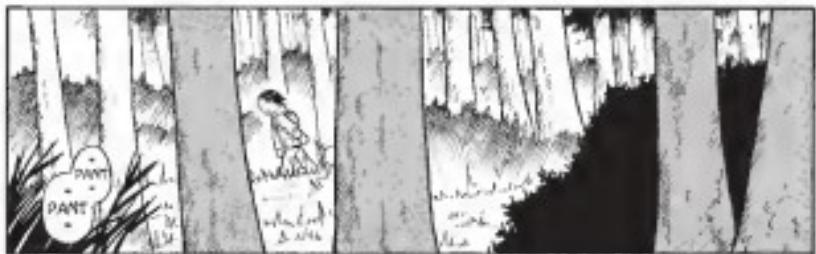
THAT
DAY
?

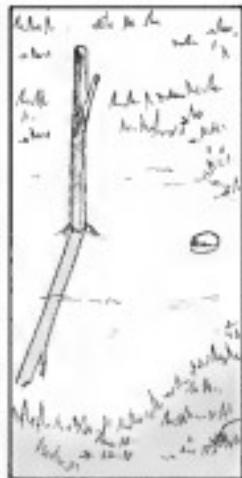
DIDN'T
I
PROMISE
MYSELF

MISSION:25

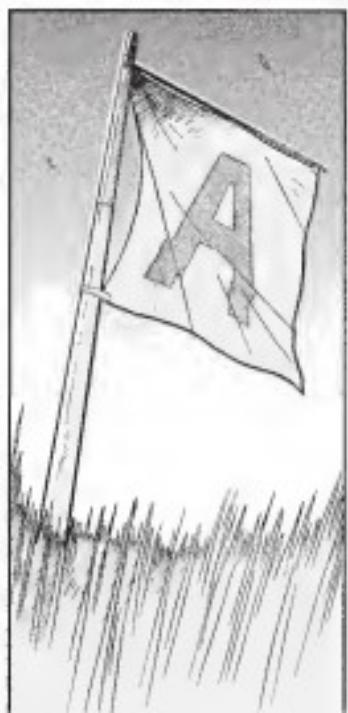


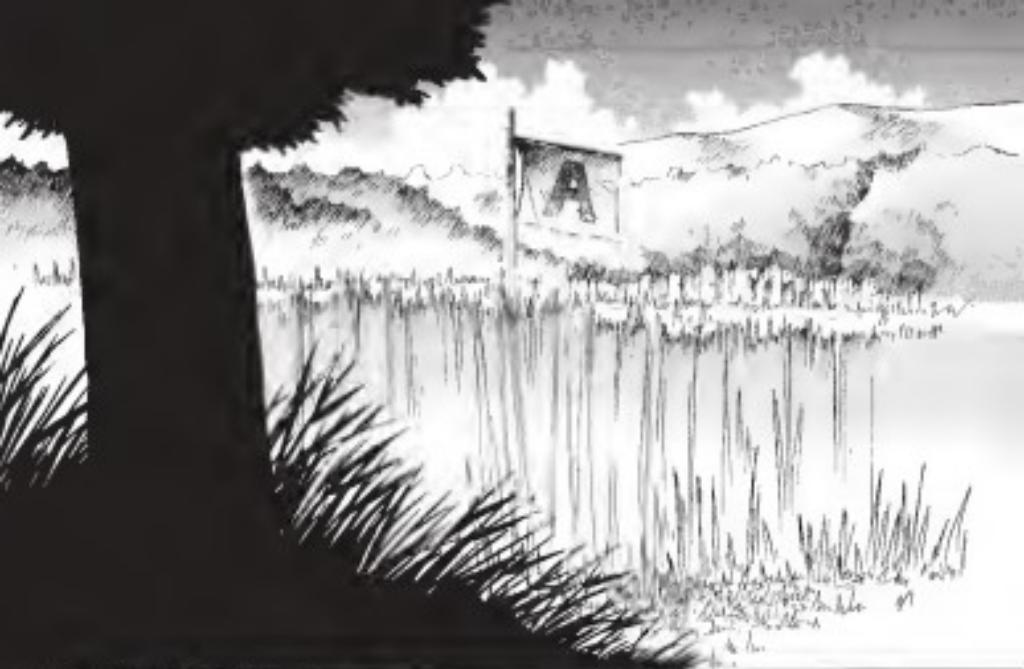












"
" " "
ZHAH

IF YOU GO
ALL-OUT FROM
THE BEGINNING,
YOU GET
TIRED OUT
TOO QUICKLY.

"
" " "
ZHAH

FEELINGS
THAT WAY
ISN'T A
BAD THING.

WELL,

GET
TO
THE
GOAL
FAST.

BUT
...

HALF-
STRENGTH
?

I ALWAYS
TRIED TO
REACH THE
GOAL USING
ONLY HALF-
STRENGTH.

















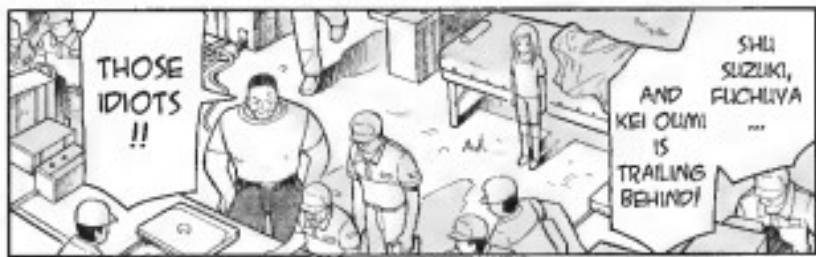






OH,
NO !!







LOOKING
FOR ME
?!







SO
THERE ARE
PEOPLE
WHO
WORRY
ENOUGH
TO LOOK
FOR ME.



WHY
WOULD
SUCH A
THING

MAKE ME
SO GLAD?









MISSION:26







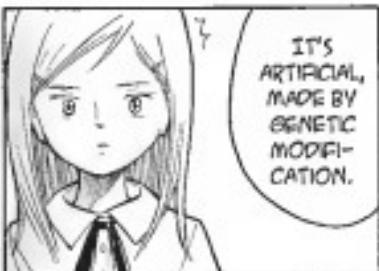


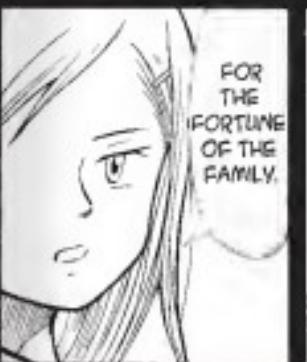
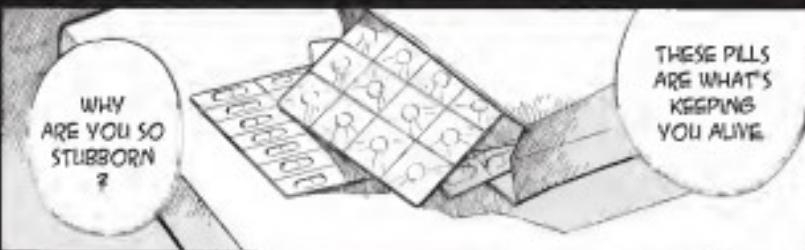
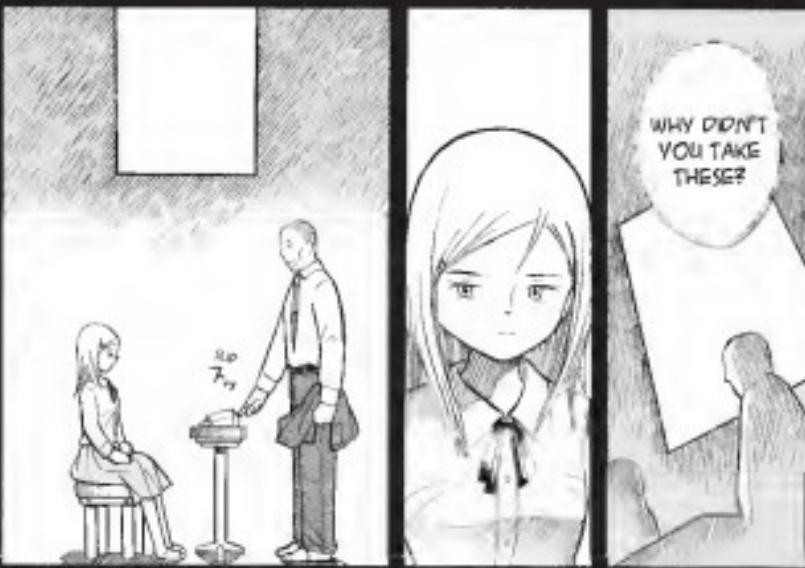








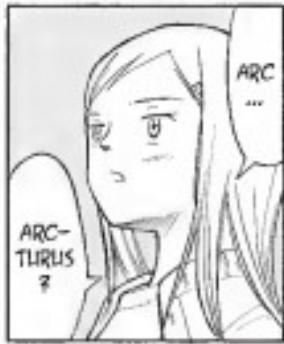




















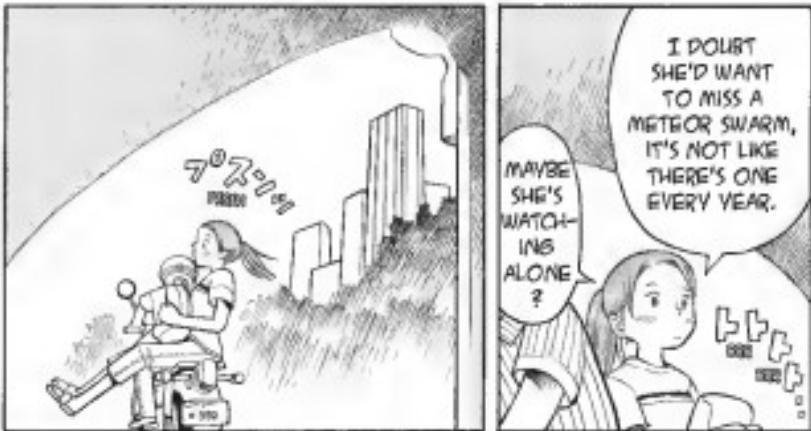
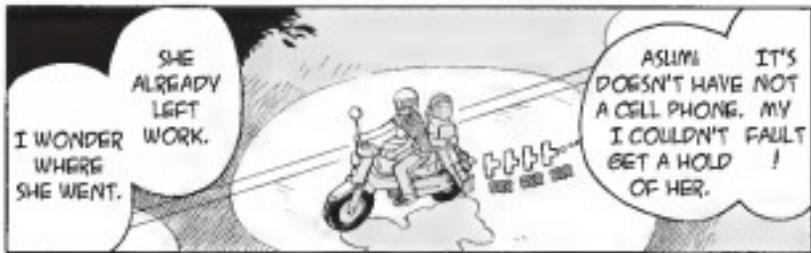


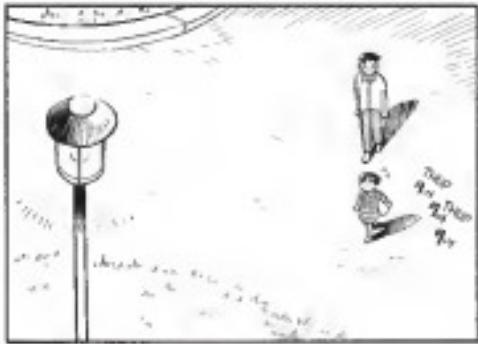


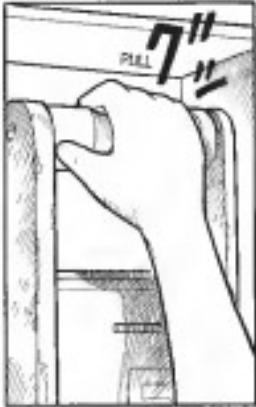




WANT TO
GO LOOK
AT THE
STARS
TOGETHER.





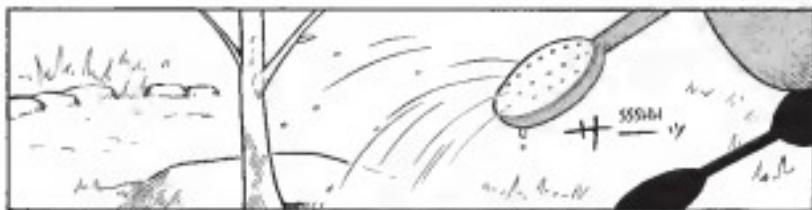










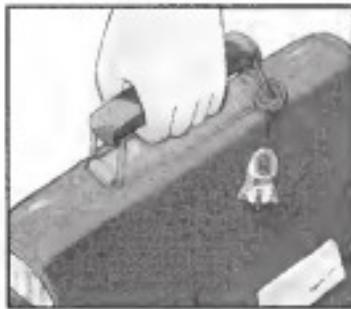






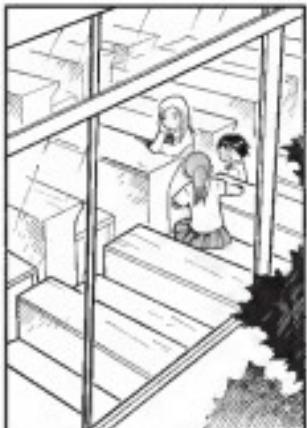
MISSION:27













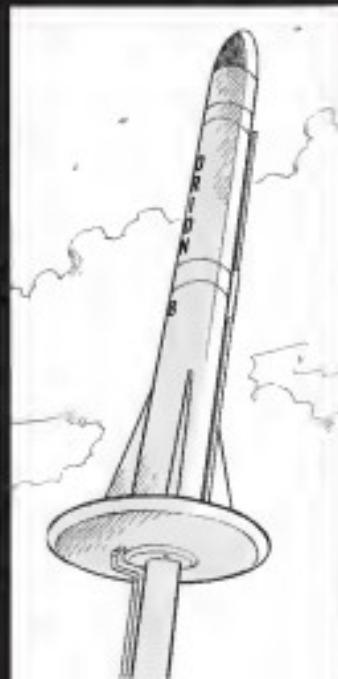




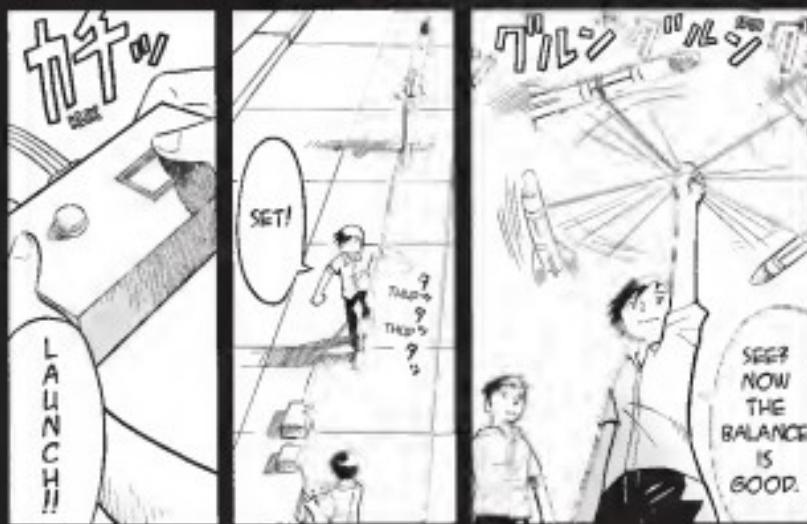
















WE'D STAY UP ALL NIGHT DRINKING AND TALKING ABOUT SPACE.

WE WERE THE SAME YEAR AND SHARED A DORM ROOM. WE TOOK THE ASTRONAUT EXAM TOGETHER AND WE BOTH PASSED.

BUT HE'S A REALLY GREAT GUY.

HE'S QUIET AND NOT VERY EXPRESSIVE SO HE'S EASILY MISUNDERSTOOD,



WELL, I OFTEN DID MOST OF THE TALKING.

BUT HE WAS MY BEST FRIEND.

I DON'T KNOW IF HE FELT THE SAME,

BUT HE GAVE UP HIS SEAT, SAYING HE WAS UNWELL.

HAIJIMA WAS ACTUALLY SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE LAUNCH TEAM OF "THE LION," NOT ME.

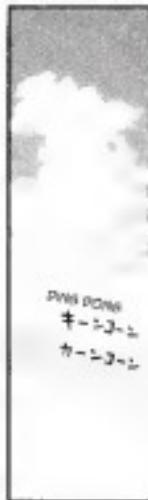


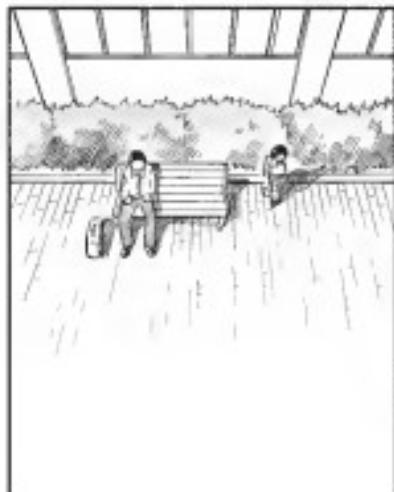
I WAS A RESERVE CREW MEMBER, AND WENT IN HIS PLACE.

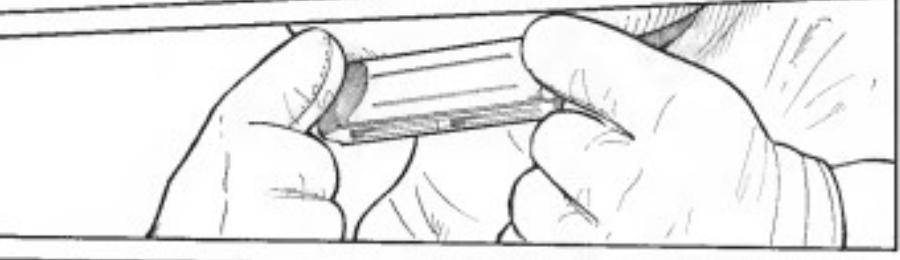




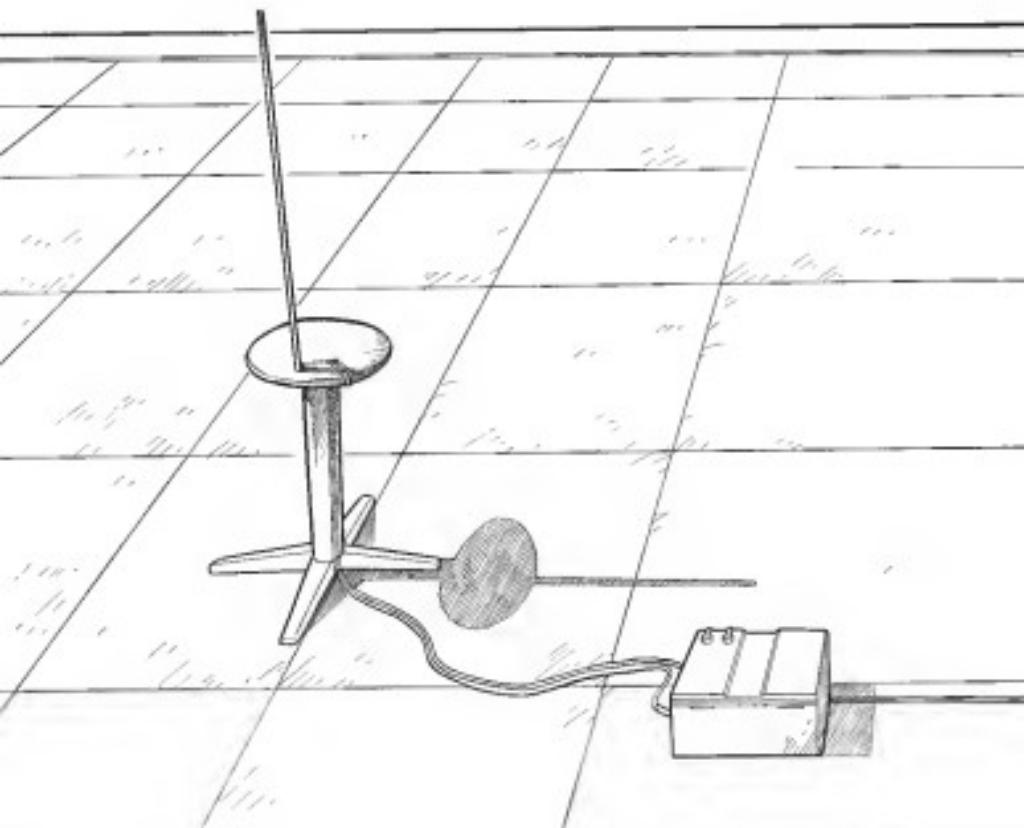




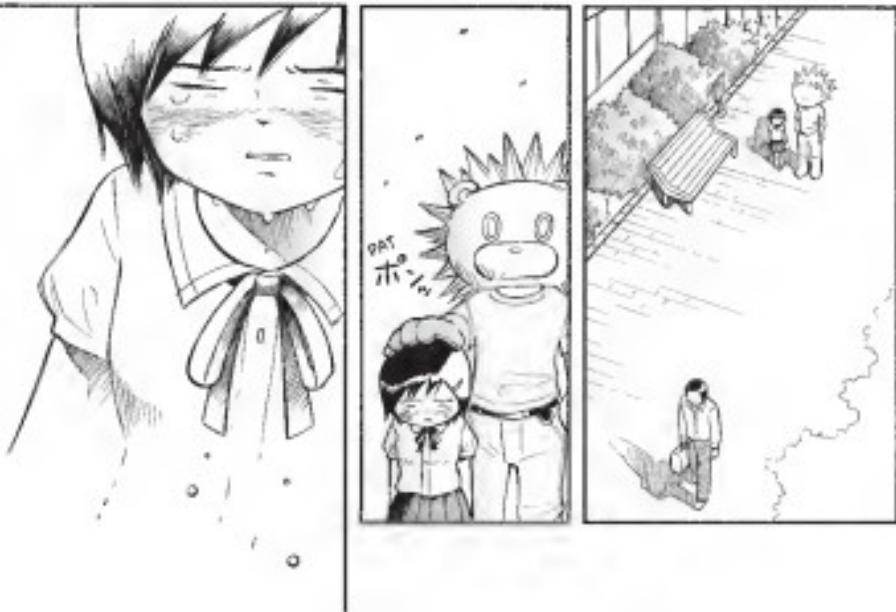


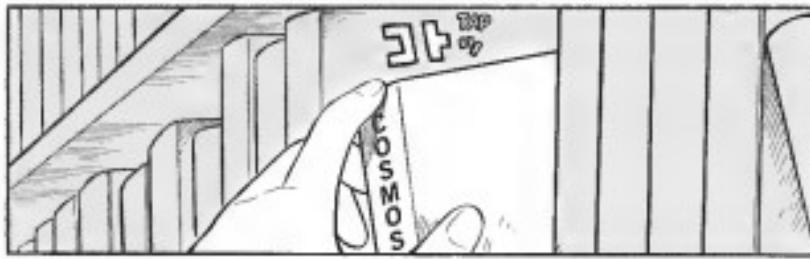


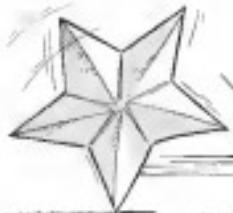




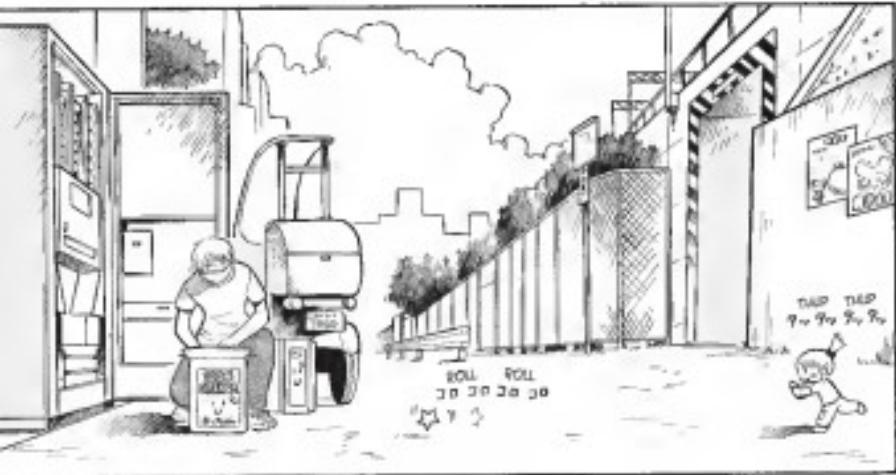








WHEE ヒュウウ...



ROLL ROLL
30 30 30 30

TAD TAD
7-9, 9, 9, 9,



DID
YOU
MAKE
THIS?



A
STAR
?



!





MISSION:28



YOU
KNOW,

DING DONG
キーンコーン
カーンコーン

BUT
A WEEK
IS
LONG.

HE'S
ALWAYS
SKIPPING
CLASS,

SHU
HASN'T
BEEN IN
CLASS
THIS
WHOLE
WEEK.

DON'T
DECIDE
FOR ME,
DUMMIE !

WE SHOULD
CHECK UP
ON HIM
TOMORROW.

OR ELSE
PASSED
OUT IN
SOME
CLASS-
ROOM.

HE'S
PROBABLY
WORKING
ALL DAY.

VLUUCHY,
LET'S
TAKE
US.

YEAH.
THAT
RUN-
DOWN
PLACE.

DON'T
YOU
KNOW
WHERE
HE LIVES
?



WHAT?



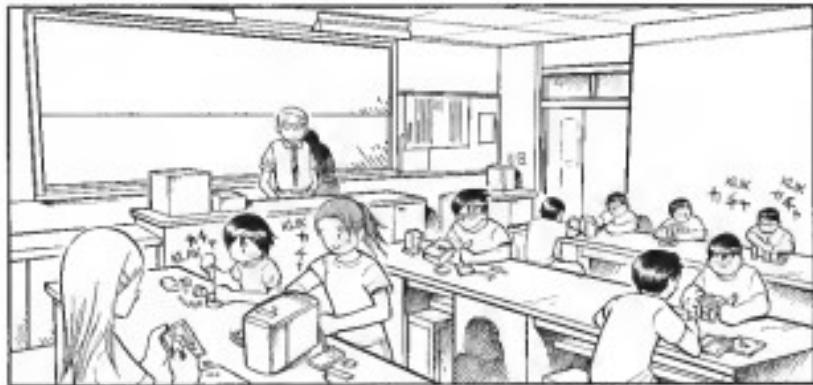
1. 鈴木秋

I SHU SUZUKI

589
点



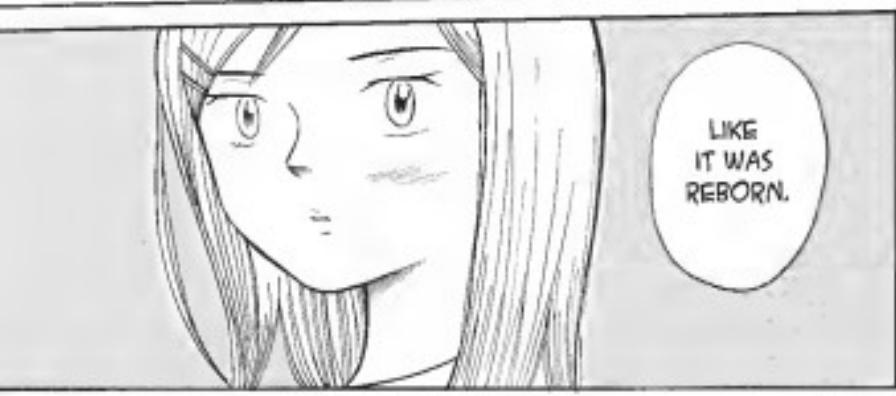


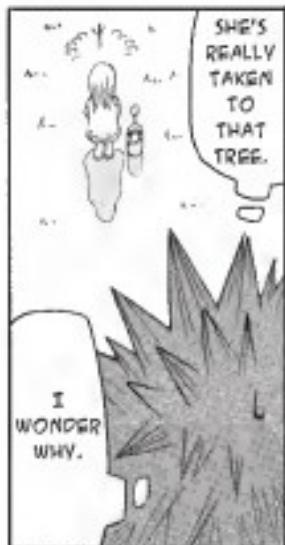








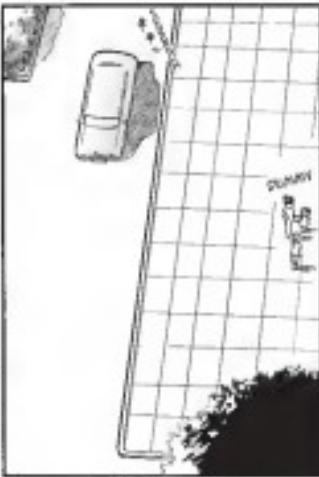


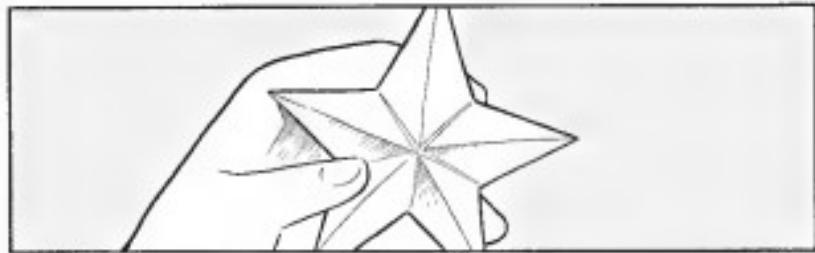






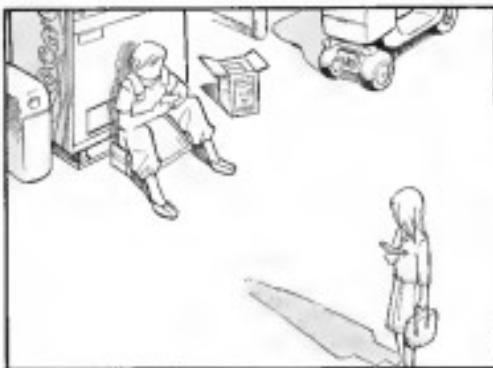




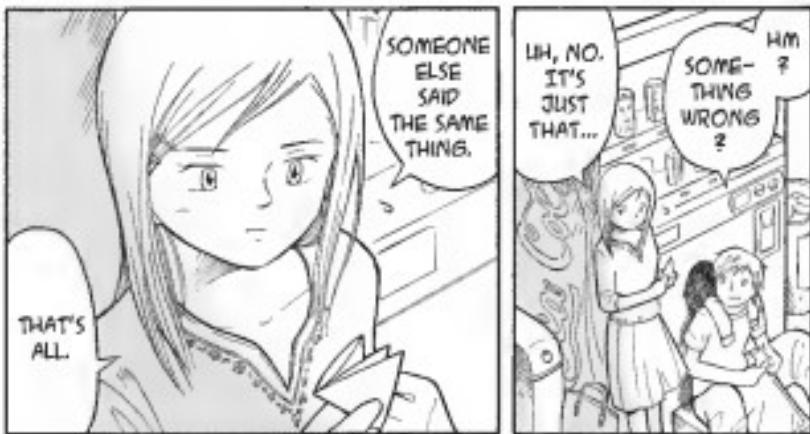








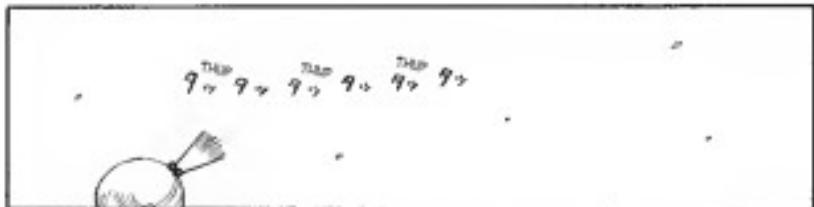


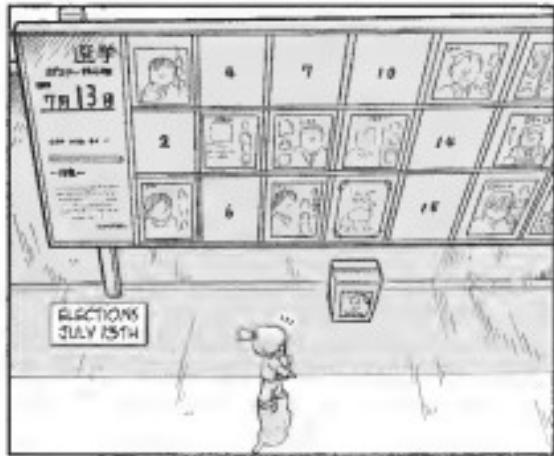




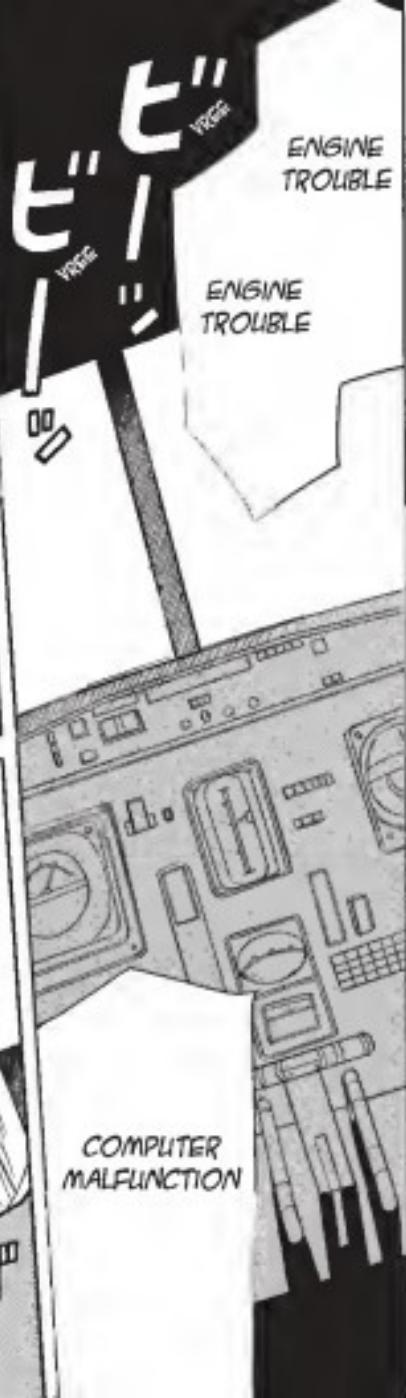














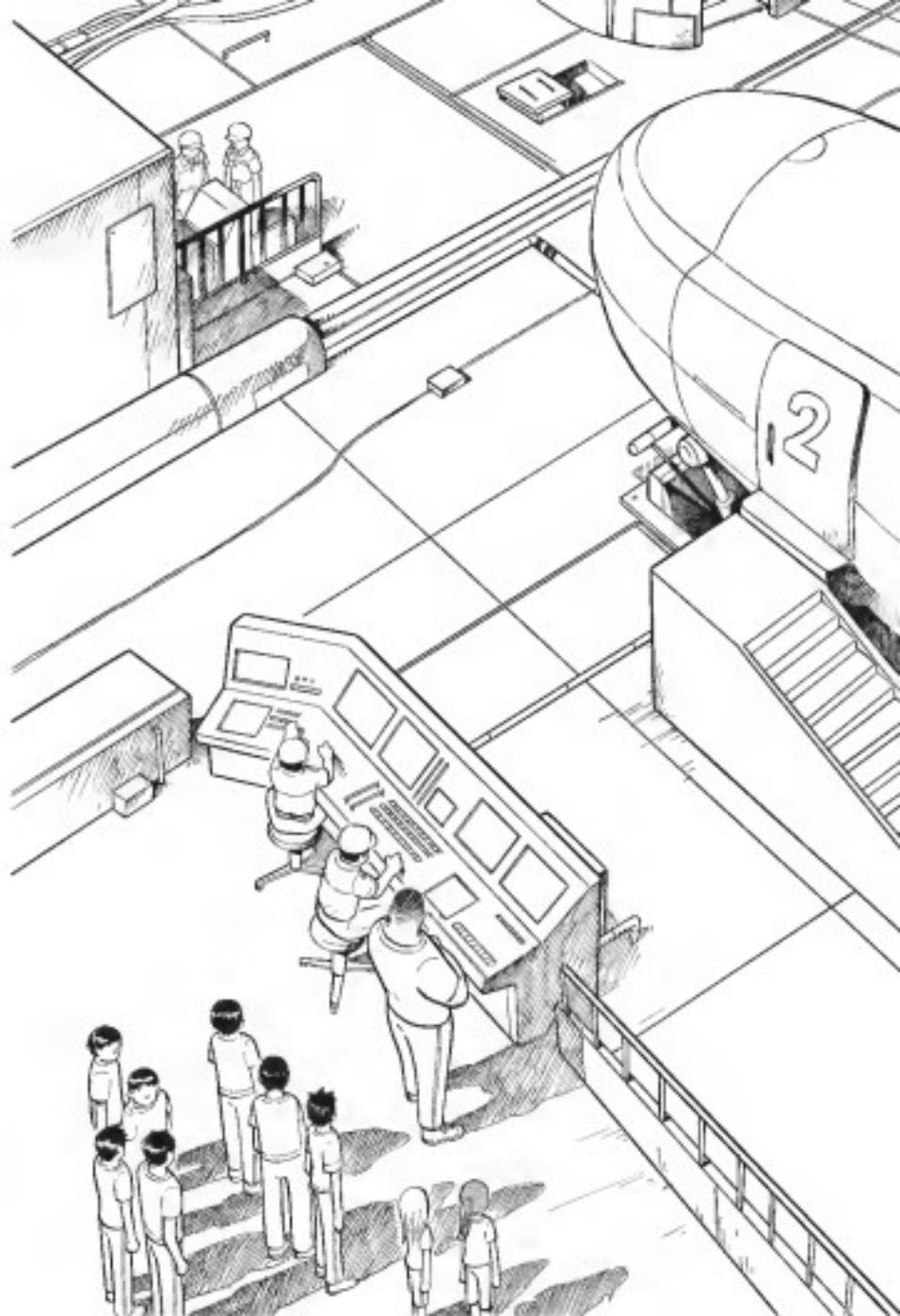
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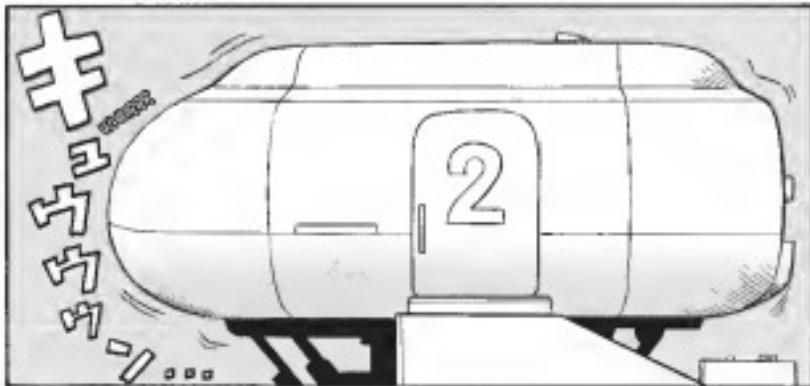


110 SWN
0%

PRACTICE
SYSTEM
SHUTTING
DOWN.
PLEASE
STAND BY.

SHUTTLE
LANDING
FAILURE.
CATAS-
TROPHIC
DAMAGE.









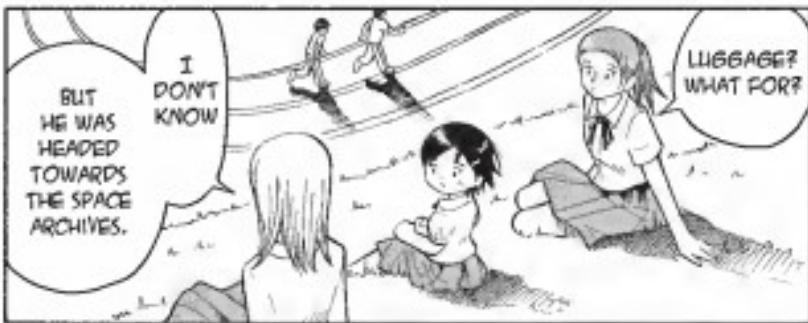










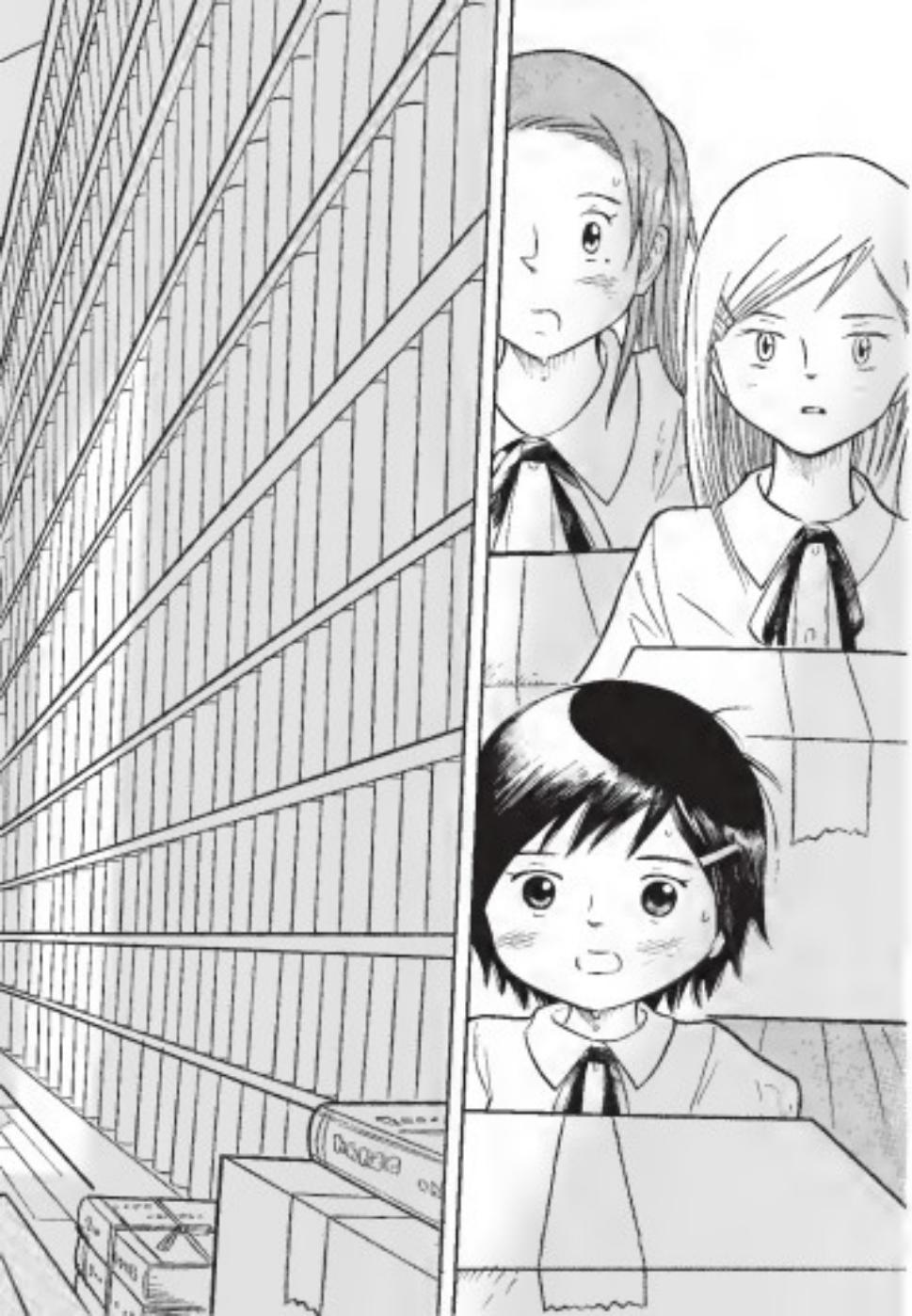






MOVING!



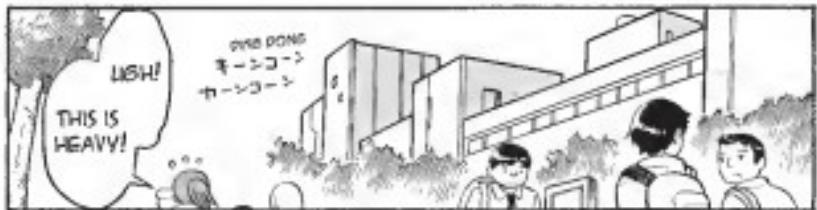




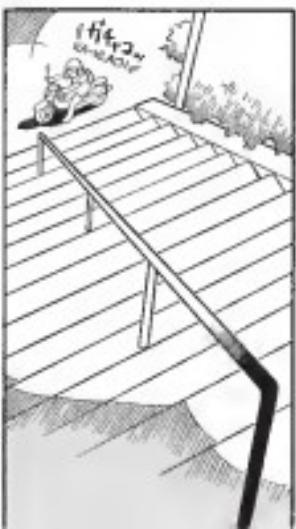






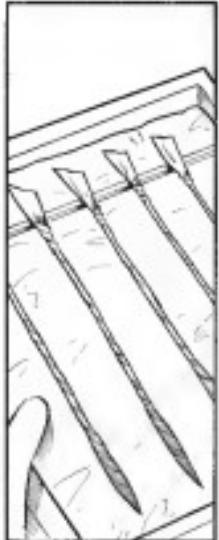




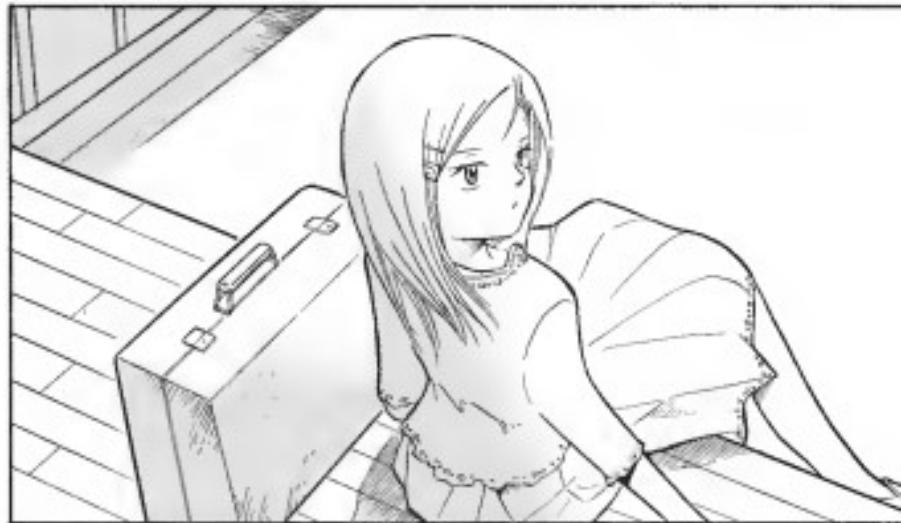












LET US PRAY
TO THESE
TINY FLAMES
THAT SUCH
AN INCIDENT
WILL NEVER
HAPPEN
AGAIN.

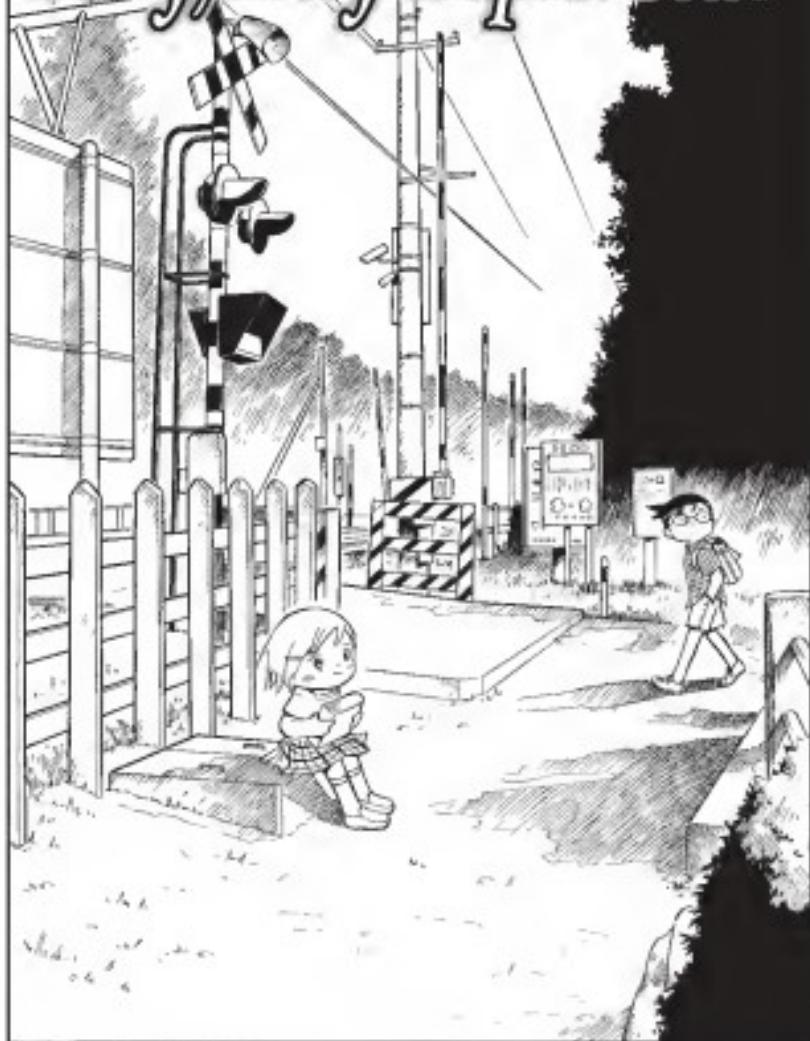
7 YEARS
HAVE PASSED
SINCE THAT
TRAGIC EVENT.



THIS, TOO,
WAS
A LONG
TIME AGO
...



Tiny, Tiny Aqua Star

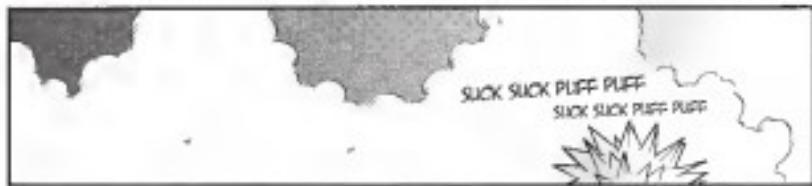


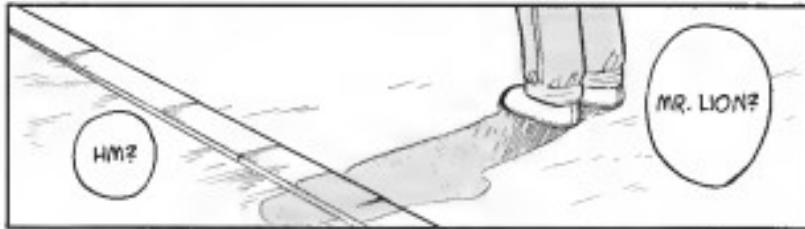








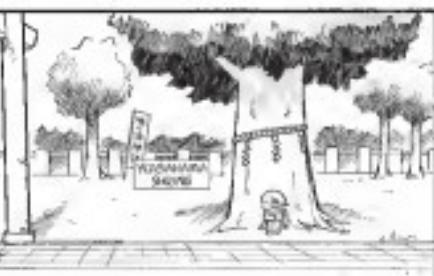




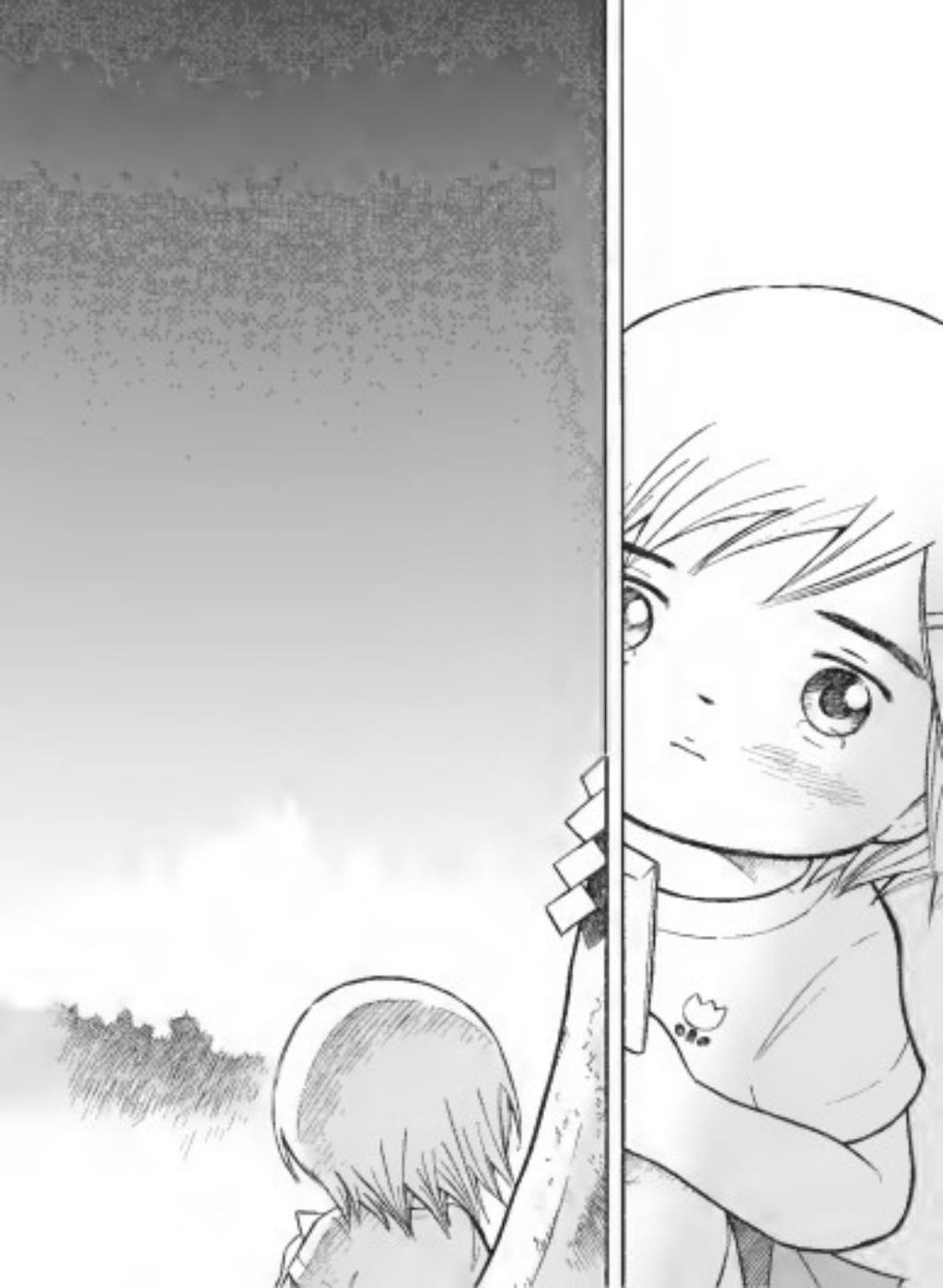






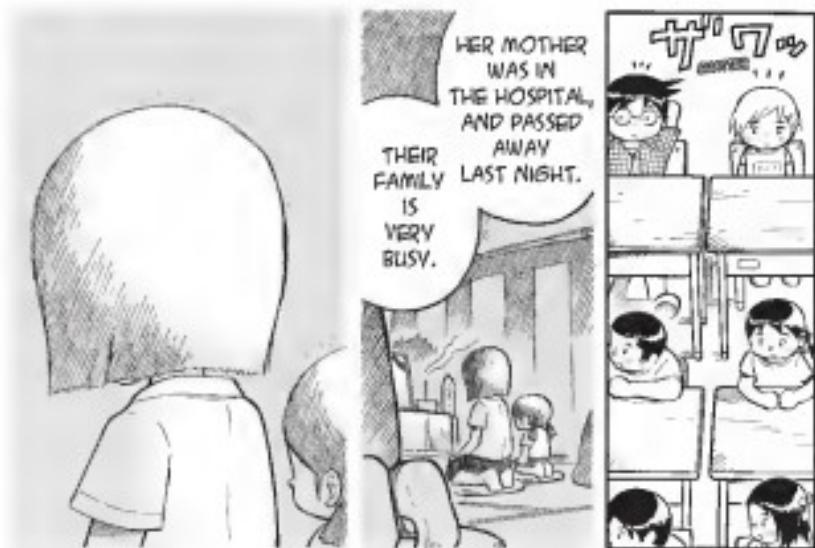






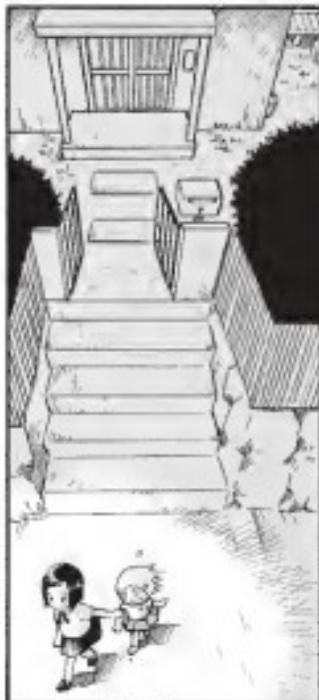


















I WANT
TO SEE
MY
MOM!

I
WANT
MY
MOM
!

I WAS
LYING
!!



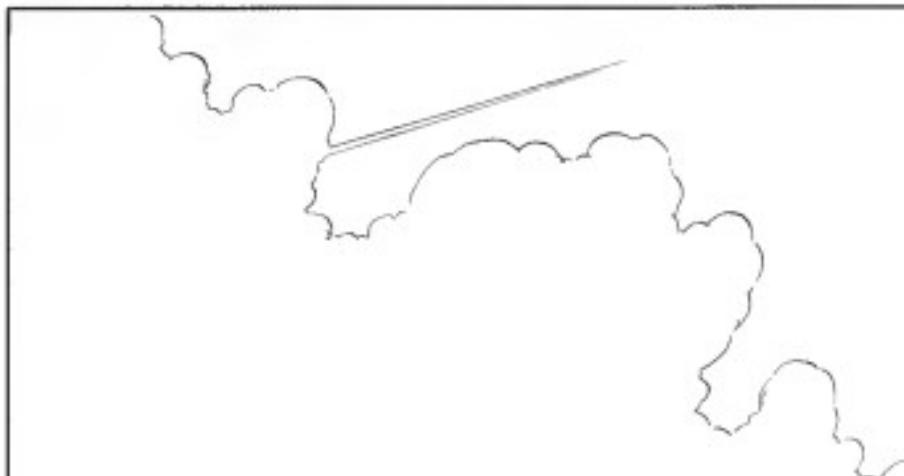












"TINY, TINY AQUA STAR" —THE END

ANOTHER SPICA

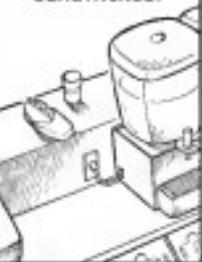


KOU YAGINUMA

And for some reason, sliced pineapple also became available that spring.

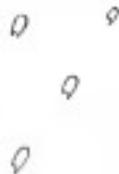


The menu was fresh-squeezed orange juice for 360 yen, and ham sandwiches.



I was still working at the theme park on the bay.

This happened during spring while I was a student.



then use this thingie



First, you lay it horizontally and chop off both ends,



I can't cook and I'm bad with knives, but it was fun chopping pineapples.



WE
DON'T
NEED THAT
MANY
PINE-
APPLES!

YAGI-
NUMA!

GASP!



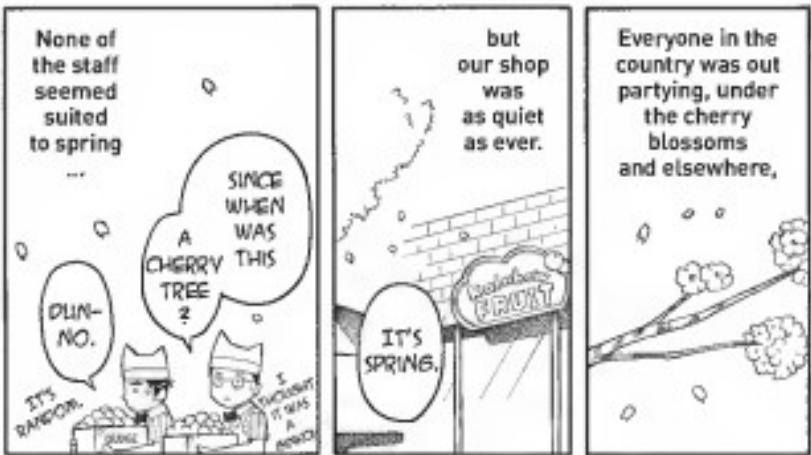
WOW !

I'd only ever seen such perfectly round pineapple in cans before.



to slice off the rind in one go.





I waited
and waited,
but she never
appeared.



The
hour
neared.



I was so
nervous
I showed up
an hour
early.



It was
my
first
date.

We were to
meet on
a train
platform
by the sea.



I was like
Damon
waiting for
Pythias.

YOU'LL
BE REASON!

HIT ME
FOR
DOUBTING
YOU EVEN
A LITTLE!



NO!
THERE
MUST
BE A

A bad
feeling
crept up.



This was before
cell phones
were common,
so contacting her
was impossible.



YEAH,
FOR
MR.
LION.



YOU
WAITING
FOR
SOMEONE,
TOO?



Just as the sound of
the waves and
the pretty sunset
and everything else
began to seem
meaningless...

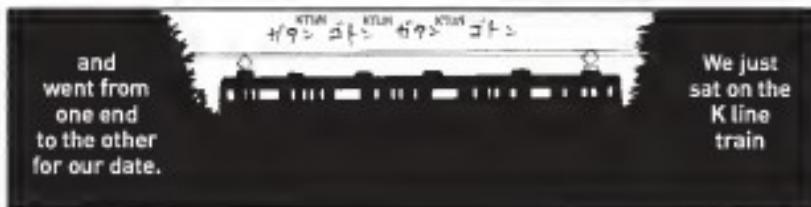




Plus, lulled by the rocking of the train, several sleepless nights caught up with me and I passed out.



and
went from
one end
to the other
for our date.



We just
sat on the
K line
train

At times like that I wished I were just 10% more handsome.

BUT
SHE
DUMPED
ME.

IT
WAS
A
DATE

IT
WAS

YOU'RE
NOT
HELPING
KAMON

HE
DIE
EN

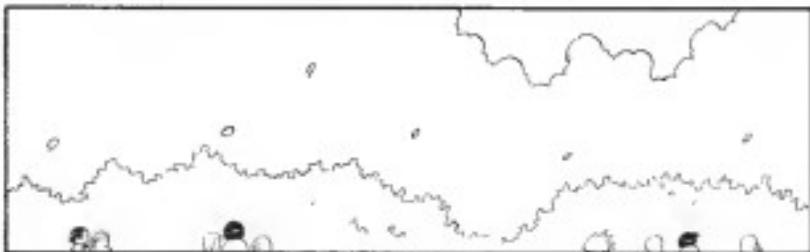
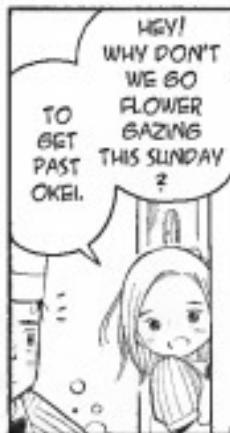
THAT
WAS
PRETTY
GOOD
FOR
YAGI-
NUMA.

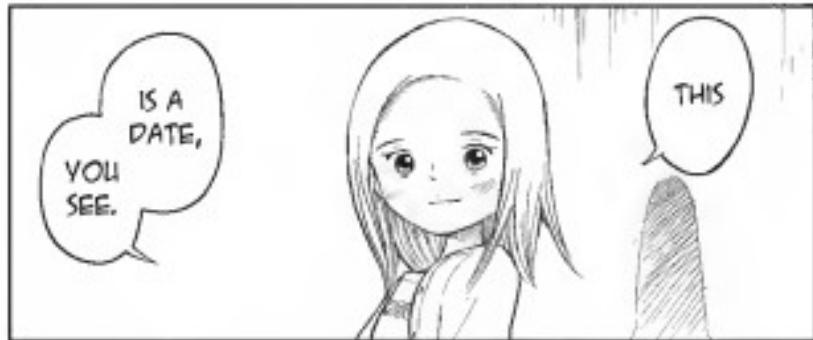
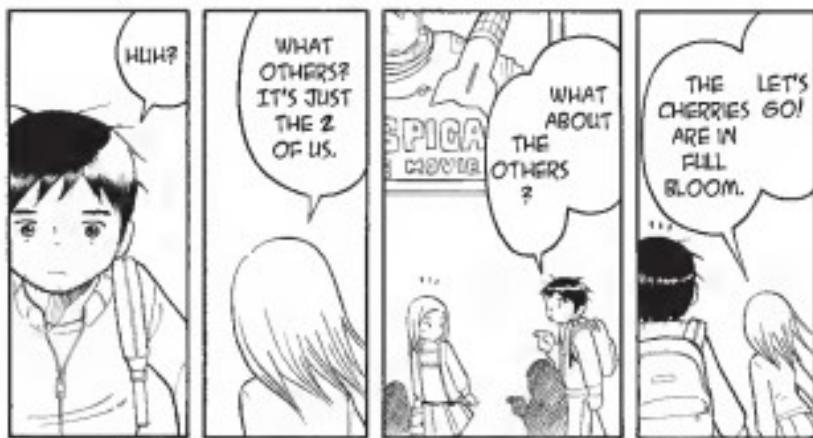
He had me
there.

二三六

YOU
CALL
THAT
A DATE
?

DON'T BE
MEAN,
FUCHIYA.





Notes on the Translation

P. 120

The character for Shu's first name means autumn and is commonly pronounced "aki." See also his T-shirt on pp. 112-14.



P. 133

The character "hama" in Yuigahama means seashore. The first character "yui" means solitary or unique. The "ga" is a connective. A real seashore region called Yuigahama exists in Kanagawa prefecture (as well as in neighboring Shizuoka). Though the "yui" is spelled with different characters, Asumi's hometown resembles the real area geographically.



P. 168

While the attendance roll call consists of entirely plausible surnames, they happen also to be stations on the Oume line, which runs through the western half of Tokyo prefecture. Hence Fuchuya's quip.



Production - Hiroko Mizuno
Tomoe Tsubumi
Christine Lee
Rina Nakayama

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Asumi and her classmates' cross-country ordeal comes to an end, but it's far from their last challenge as they're quickly reminded. Meanwhile, one of the gang starts skipping class.

Praise for *Twin Spica*

"Ultimately, the manga surprised me. Reading about *Twin Spica*'s lead trying to go into space, I got choked up. It's more sensitive and naturalistic than other space academy manga." —*Ain't It Cool News*

"I am hooked. Totally and completely hooked. The strength of the story comes from the solid, likable characters, and the charming, engaging illustrations.

Grade: A" —*Manga Maniac Cafe*



